

Patent claims

1. A method for adjusting the coolant flow from the cooling ducts of an internal combustion engine (1)
5 into a heating heat exchanger (3) with a cut-off valve (14),
characterized
in that the coolant flow into the heating heat exchanger (3) is interrupted by the cut-off valve
10 (14) if the temperature of the coolant is below a predefined reference temperature (Ref1a, Ref1b, Ref2Min), and the coolant flow in the combustion ducts is thus stopped.
- 15 2. The method as claimed in claim 1,
characterized
in that after a first reference temperature (Ref1b) as a preliminary threshold is exceeded,
the cut-off valve (14) is temporarily opened, so
20 that the wax pellet in the three-way thermostat (11) is pre-heated and the cut-off valve is subsequently closed again until the coolant temperature has reached a second, higher reference value (Ref1a) as an operating threshold.
- 25 3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
characterized
in that if the temperature of the coolant in a lower temperature range between a lower reference
30 temperature (Ref2Min) and an upper reference temperature (Ref2Max) and the load-dependent, calculated cooling water target temperature simultaneously falls below a third reference value (Ref3), the coolant flow in the cooling ducts of
35 the internal combustion engine is started up by means of correspondingly opening the cut-off valve

(14) or the related valve in the three-way thermostat (11).

4. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
5 characterized
in that the coolant flow is started up if the
calculated, load-dependent coolant target
temperature exceeds a comparison value.
- 10 5. The method as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4,
characterized
in that in the event of a failure, the coolant
flow is started up for reasons of safety.